

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 446
By Davis

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Eulys Gray (E. G.)
Bryant long-time educator and former Cocke
County Superintendent of Schools.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Eulys Gray (E.G.) Bryant, long-time educator and former Cocke County Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, born in the Bogard section of Cocke County, E. G. Bryant was the son of Charles Weldon and Addie Florence Roberts Bryant. He was one of the few living grandchildren of a Civil War veteran, James J. Bryant, the husband of Orpha Hatley; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryant was raised by his mother after the death of his father in the mid-1930s and graduated from Cocke County High School in 1934; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Lincoln Memorial University and taught at Bogard, Edgemont and Del Rio schools before becoming principal at Cosby High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryant expertly served one term as Cocke County Superintendent of Schools from 1960-1964, a period during which the school system experienced its largest construction growth. As a result of his efforts, new schools were built at Cocke County High School, Bridgeport, Grassy Fork and Hartford, and renovations and additions took place at Parrottsville, Tanner and Cosby schools; and

WHEREAS, he returned to Cosby as principal and held that office for 17 years. His distinguished 34-year educational career ended in 1975, when he retired as principal at Del Rio School; and

WHEREAS, during and after his career in education, Mr. Bryant was very active in church and community affairs, serving with extraordinary diligence and dedication as president of the Cocke County Education Association, a member of the Cocke County Retired Teachers Association, a charter member and president of the Cosby Ruritan Club and as Smoky Mountain Ruritan district governor; and

WHEREAS, he also generously contributed his time and ideas as a valued member of the Cocke County Library Board, director of the Cocke County Farm Bureau, supervisor of the Cocke County Soil Conservation District, member of the Newport Lions and Kiwanis clubs; and

WHEREAS, a life-long member of Jenkins Chapel Methodist Church, he served God and the church faithfully in a variety of ways, including serving as treasurer, Sunday school teacher and choir member; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryant and his wife, Letty, were honored in December, 1995, by the Cocke County High School Beta Club for their service to education. The club will plant a tree at the school in his honor and memory; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of E. G. Bryant and express our deepest condolences to his wife Letty Rogers Bryant, his daughter, Louise, his sons-in-law, Don Van Hyning and Wayne Williamson, his other family members and his friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution, duly inscribed with the sentiments of this Body, be prepared with this final resolving clause deleted.

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